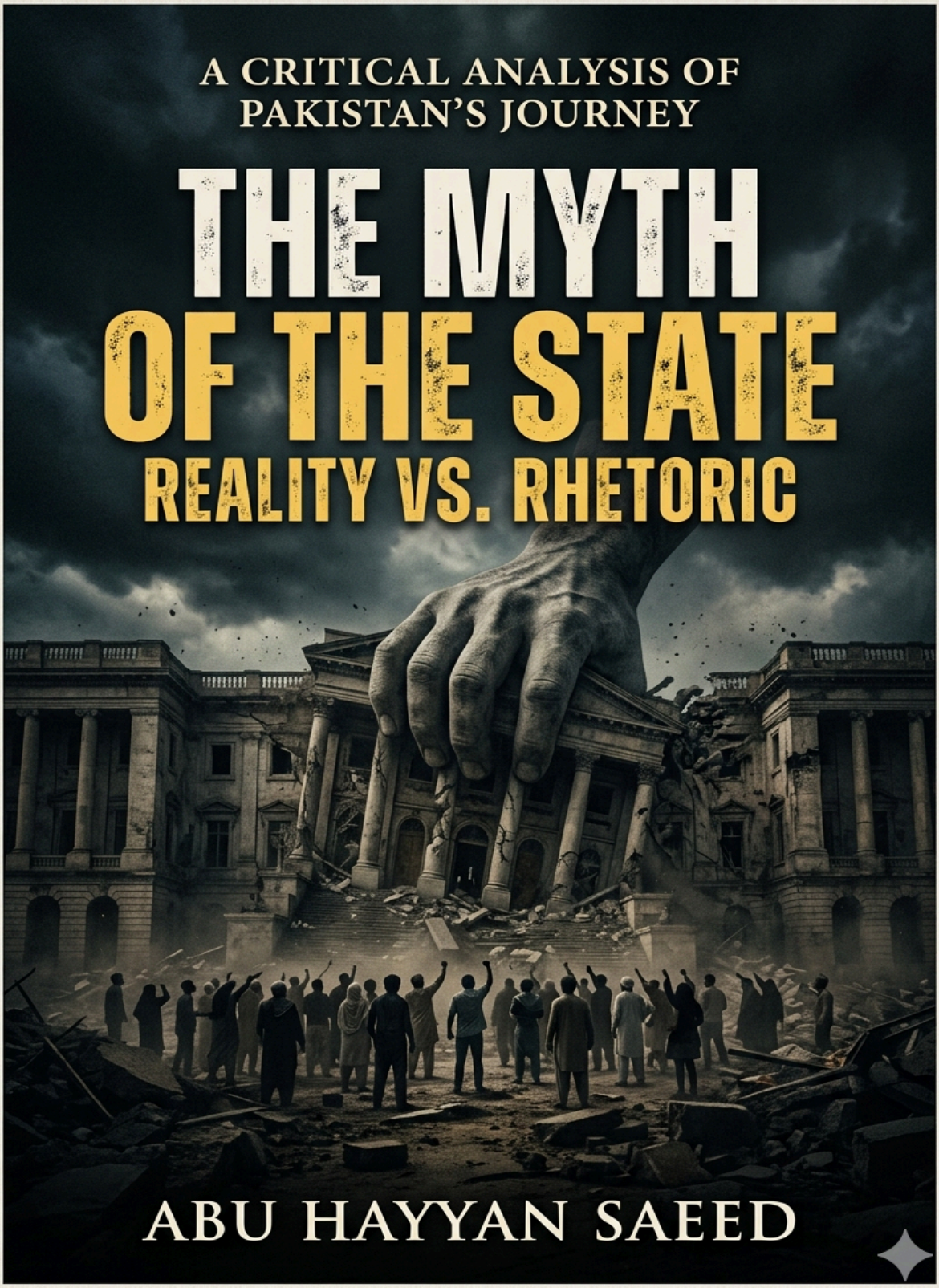
A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF
PAKISTAN'S JOURNEY

THE MYTH OF THE STATE

REALITY VS. RHETORIC



ABU HAYYAN SAEED

The Myth of the State: Reality vs. Rhetoric

Abu Hayyan Saeed

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Why I Wrote This Article

The impetus behind this article stems from a deep-seated concern for the widening gap between the theoretical framework of the State and the ground reality in Pakistan. As a researcher and observer, I have witnessed the systematic erosion of the very pillars that are supposed to uphold our national structure.

I felt compelled to write this for three primary reasons:

- *To Redefine the "State": There is a growing and dangerous intellectual fallacy where the "State" is being reduced to a single institution or department. I wrote this to remind the reader that a true state is a collective entity—built upon the Constitution, the will of the people, and the harmony of its four pillars. Defending a department at the cost of the Constitution is not patriotism; it is a misunderstanding of statehood.*
- *To Document the "Injury Time": Drawing parallels from historical precedents like the Soviet Union, I wanted to highlight that no amount of physical might can compensate for a broken social contract. We are living in a critical window of time—what I call "injury time"—where the choices we make regarding justice and law will determine our survival as a cohesive nation.*
- *A Call for Intellectual Honesty: In an era dominated by "polishee" narratives and manufactured consent, there is a dire need for a blunt, unvarnished critique. This article is a*

rejection of the "monkey-and-master" dynamic currently prevalent in our media and political discourse.

Ultimately, this piece is an "uncomfortable warning." It was written not out of malice, but out of a sense of duty to the original promise of Pakistan: a state where the law is supreme, and the power rests with the people. I believe that while a system of disbelief might endure for a time, a system built on injustice is destined to fail. This is my attempt to call for a "surgery" before history makes its own ruthless decision.

What is the basis of a State?

Generally, a state is built on four fundamental pillars that run the country's system. The survival of a state depends on the strength of these pillars:

1. **Legislature:** Responsible for law-making through elected representatives (Parliament) based on public aspirations.
2. **Executive:** Responsible for implementing laws and day-to-day governance. This includes the PM, Cabinet, bureaucracy, and state departments (including armed forces).
3. **Judiciary:** Responsible for interpreting the law and ensuring justice. It keeps the executive and legislature within constitutional bounds.
4. **Media (The Fourth Estate):** Responsible for accountability, transparency, and monitoring the performance of the other three pillars.

Technical Elements of a State:

In Political Science, a state consists of four essential elements: Population, Territory, Government, and Sovereignty. When these pillars interfere in each other's domains, the system collapses into chaos.

The Situation in Pakistan:

The violation of the Constitution began shortly after its inception and continues today. Speaking about the judiciary is considered a "great sin" due to the fear of contempt of court. The Legislature (Parliament) remained a "circus of the uneducated" for a long time, and now their descendants who are often incompetent and corrupt have taken over. The Establishment (Military) claims that the public elects such people, which is only partially true because the Establishment itself often manipulates political alliances (like IJI, PTI, or PDM) and uses "Form 47" power while acting innocent.

As for the media, it acts worse than a monkey dancing to a master's tune.

The "Bootlicking" Factor:

A new factor has emerged in the state pillars: the "Polishee" (Bootlicker) factor. This group is always ready to flatter, mainly focusing on one institution. While the military is just one department, this "Polishee mafia" equates this single department with the entire "State."

The problem is that these people do not even know what a state is. By defending one department as the state, they act like an ignorant bride protecting her "state." They fail to realize that the State actually consists of the Constitution, the Judiciary, a representative Parliament, free media, and the People, not just one department.

Every such flatterer is an enemy of the state because they contribute to its destruction by opposing the Constitution, Parliament, and public sovereignty.

Conclusion: Mirage vs. Reality

Pakistan is at a crossroads where the definition of the "State" has been distorted.

1. **State vs. Institution:** The tragedy is that the state (People, Constitution, Geography) has been made subordinate to one department. When the watchman starts acting like the owner, the house collapses.
2. **The Polish Narrative:** Those defending institutional interests under the guise of "national interest" are actually hollowing out the state.

3. **Lessons from History:** The Soviet Union proves that nuclear weapons and powerful agencies cannot save a state if the "social contract" with the people is broken and the economy is ruined.
4. **The 10-15 Year Window:** We are in "injury time." If we don't return to constitutional supremacy and justice within the next decade, economic bankruptcy and social unrest will demolish the structure.

The Solution:

The path to salvation is not through new branding of old corrupt politicians, but a return to the original promise of the Constitution: a state where everyone is equal before the law and power belongs to the people.

Final Word:

This is a warning. States run on justice, not on the arrogance of power. "A system of disbelief can survive, but a system of injustice cannot."

The Looming Shadow of History: A Final Warning

The collapse of the Soviet Union stands as a stark, historical refutation of the idea that a state can be held together by sheer force alone. Despite possessing a massive nuclear arsenal, a world-class military, and an all-pervasive intelligence apparatus, the Soviet structure disintegrated because it ignored the most fundamental law of statehood: **the social contract.** When the economy became the playground of a centralized elite and the common citizen felt no stake in the system, the geographical borders no matter how heavily guarded became nothing more than sandcastles against the tide of history.

Pakistan today finds itself at a remarkably similar crossroads. We are currently operating in "injury time," clinging to a distorted definition of the state that prioritizes the preservation of institutions over the preservation of the people. When the "watchmen" mistake themselves for the owners, and when the Constitution is treated as a disposable piece of paper rather than a sacred covenant, the foundations of the house begin to rot.

The lesson we must learn before time runs out is that national security does not come from silencing dissent or managing political outcomes

through "Form 47" theatrics. True security is a byproduct of **justice** and **public trust**. If we continue to allow a "polishing" culture to mask systemic decay, we invite the same fate as those empires that thought they were too powerful to fail.

The path to salvation is narrow but clear. It requires an immediate and painful "surgery" a total return to constitutional supremacy where every department operates within its defined limits, and where the people are recognized as the true fountainhead of power. History is a cold and objective judge; it does not care for slogans or "Sajdah-e-Sahw." It only recognizes that while a system of disbelief may endure for a season, a system built on injustice is destined for the dustbin of history.

The choice is ours: **Restoration or Dissolution.**